

LIVING *in the New* NORMAL



Supporting Children through Trauma and Loss™

MILITARY CHILD EDUCATION COALITION™ ...for the sake of the child™

The Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC)'s™ Living in the New Normal™ initiative is the most recent effort to serve military children. Sparked by concerns about military children dealing with illness, injury, or death of a parent, the Living in the New Normal™ or LINN™ initiative was thoughtfully developed through collaboration with experts in the fields of trauma and grief, resiliency, health care, and child development.

LINN™ encourages families to ensure their children have the tools to weather life's storms, fosters homefront efforts to support military children, and provides educators and other concerned adults with information to help them support children during times of uncertainty, trauma, and grief. LINN's™ efforts are predicated on the belief that children are courageous and resilient and that these skills can be strengthened through deliberate encouragement by the adults in their lives.

*"Children are much more likely to identify and discuss their feelings
if they experience educators and helping professionals that understand the stress
the military child is dealing with in regards to the new normal of grief and loss."*

~Major Jeff Bergmann, Department of Behavioral Sciences & Leadership, United States Military Academy, West Point New York

ABOUT MCEC'S™ LIVING IN THE NEW NORMAL: *Supporting Children through Trauma and Loss™*

The MCEC™ fosters a compassionate understanding among educational professionals and military child and youth specialists regarding the intensity and severity of stressors related to the deployment of a parent or parents and the potential for trauma or grief related to illness, injury or death.

Living in the New Normal™ supports and promotes an environment of resilience and non-victimization, establishment of a new normal, recognition of the elements of courage, and identification of effective resources.

The MCEC™ provides practical structures, school-based applications, transition support systems, and response models that develop pathways for continuity based on the emotional, social, and educational aspects affecting the military child.

THE LIVING IN THE NEW NORMAL:

Supporting Children through Trauma & Loss™

A Comprehensive Approach

In order to meet the mission of the Living in the New Normal™ initiative, MCEC™ has developed three key components.



Professional Development

One of the cornerstones of MCEC's™ efforts for military children, MCEC's™ trainings now include information on the experience and effects of grief, building resilience, and identifying community resources. As with all information shared in MCEC™ trainings, the training and materials developed for the LINN™ initiative were designed to be practical and user-friendly.

Resources and Research-Based References

MCEC™ makes available a variety of references for both adults and children as part of the LINN™ initiative. It provides its own informative publications, based on years of extensive research, as well as existing independent materials, selected through a meticulous review process.

Public Engagement

MCEC™ provides a structured process which enables community members to discuss the issues surrounding deployment and its resulting stressors, including the possibility of trauma or grief. This process helps both to foster discussions and to create an impetus for homefront efforts to examine its reaction to the situation and to enhance relevant community initiatives.

Please join us in assisting all families who are Living in the New Normal™ ...*for the sake of the child.*™

ABOUT THE MILITARY CHILD EDUCATION COALITION™

The Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC)™ is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization focused on the academic and school-related needs of the military-connected child. Addressing the transition and other educational challenges faced by the military child, MCEC™ serves as an incubator of innovative approaches, a conduit of promising practices, and an information source for organizations, educators, and parents. Toward this end, the Military Child Education Coalition™ performs research, develops resources, sponsors professional institutes, conducts conferences, and publishes information for all constituencies.



Military Child Education Coalition™

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